

## KAISER WILL TALK LASTING PEACE, ALSO

CONFERENCE WITH SECRETARY LANSING PRECEDES OFFICIAL STATEMENT

CONFERENCE WITH SECRETARY LANSING PRECEDES ANY OFFICIAL STATEMENT

Ambassador von Bernstorff informs Uncle Sam that Germany is ready to make public full terms for peace, and that permanent peace may be taken up with peace league.

Washington, Dec. 16.—(United Press)—German Ambassador Bernstorff has officially announced Germany is ready to give the allies a full statement of terms in peace conference. He said he did not know the terms. He made the announcement following a visit with Secretary of State Lansing.

He said Germany was also willing to discuss disarmament with the league for permanent peace and kindred subjects.

Von Bernstorff asked Mr. Lansing whether America intended to supplement Germany's proposals. The fact the United States has decided not to urge suggestions has not discouraged Germany, as it is believed President Wilson may act later.

It is learned the British embassy is advised the London foreign office has not flatly refused the proposals on account of neutral opinions. It is understood the French and Russian embassies have acted similarly.

**RABIES OUTBREAK IS SERIOUS**  
Government Hunters Are Being Rushed Into Southeastern Washington.

Pendleton, Dec. 16.—(Special)—Government hunters are being rushed into the southeastern Washington country to make a fight against the epidemic of rabies which has broken out there during the past month. Information was received by telephone this morning, supplementing a letter from A. W. Coffin of Coffin Bros., big Washington stockmen, confirming the serious reports of damage done. One hunter, a man with an unusually fine record for efficiency, has already been transferred there to supplement the regular force and two more will be sent there immediately. Inspector Averill said this morning: "The situation looks bad. Our reports indicate that the outbreak is in a strip of country about 50 miles wide, extending from the Columbia river east to Corfu, a station on the C. M. & St. P. railway." One report said that a stockman named Kellogg, on the Figure 2 ranch, nine miles south of Beverly, lost 14 out of 15 head by the disease recently.

**Marines Select San Diego.**

San Diego, Calif., Dec. 16.—(United Press)—The geographical location and harbor facilities of this city have led to its selection as a strategic base for the operations of United States Marines on the Pacific coast. The site already has been secured, and the new naval bill proposes development and quarters for a minimum force of 1500 men.

With the establishment of this base, an adequate force will be available at all times for expeditionary duty, and it will not be necessary to deplete the strength of forces stationed at Bremerton, Mare Island and other Pacific points, except in cases of emergency.

As Major General Barnett recently said that the additional 5000 men authorized by congress for the Marine corps are being enrolled rapidly, it is expected that many of the newly trained soldiers of the sea will be stationed here.

## Society News

A sacred concert of unusual merit will be rendered Sunday evening at the Methodist Episcopal church, under the auspices of the choir, and leadership of Mrs. J. P. Graham. This will take the place of the one to have been given on Sunday night, Christmas Eve, when the church and choir will participate in the street Christmas tree services. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to come out and enjoy the Sunday evening program, which contains the following numbers:

Anthem, "I Am Alpha and Omega" Stainer  
Choir  
Solo, "How Long Wilt Thou Forget Me" Pfluenger  
Mrs. George Huntington Curry  
Male Quartette, "Beautiful Country" Parks  
Messrs. Harding, Robbs, Winters and Knautz  
Anthem, "Send Out Thy Light" Gounod  
Choir  
Duet, "Holy Father, Guide Our Footsteps" Wallace  
Mrs. Graham, Miss Gladys Winters  
Solo, "In Heavenly Love Abiding" Roberts  
Mr. Charles Harding  
Anthem, "Calvary" Rodney  
Choir

A recital is given this afternoon by the piano pupils of Mrs. Harriet R. MacDonald, at her home on Fourth street. The program:

The Happy Farmer.....Schuman  
Austin Sloane  
Valse Mignon.....Carl Bohm  
Helen Peebler  
Moss Rose Waltz.....C. Schubert  
Margaret Palmer  
Lilliputian March.....Ducelle  
Howard Glenn  
Petite Valse.....Hannah Smith  
Katherine Starr  
Lullaby.....Gurlett  
Olive Bradshaw  
Sweetheart Waltz.....Carl Bohm  
Ruth Hill  
Funeral March.....Tchaikowsky  
Carol Glenn  
Just a Bunch of Flowers.....Spaulding  
Tippy Pierce  
Air from the Magic Flute.....Mozart  
May Keefer  
Tunics and Rhymes.....Molineux  
Louise Salisbury  
National Airs.....Sam Cochran  
Menuette.....Reinecke  
Edith Pierce  
Snow Queen Polka.....Krogman  
Merl Gore  
Consolation.....Mendelssohn  
Beth Hesse  
Rosamund Aid.....Schubert  
Staccato Polka.....Bohm  
Loa Lyman  
Toreador Song from Carmen....Sheldon Brownston  
Indian Dance.....Betty Cochran

At the regular meeting of the Neighborhood club last Tuesday excellent papers under the general subject of "Self Expression" were read by Mesdames Para L. Thornton, Harriet McDonald and George H. Curry. The members enjoyed a very pleasing solo by Mrs. Merton Kiddle, Mrs. J. P. Graham, accompanist. The club expressed its vote of thanks to Mrs. L. Irene King for the gift of an autographic volume of her poetry and to Mrs. George Gilbert, retiring president, for the gift of a framed photograph of the delegates in attendance at the federation convention at Seaside, Oregon.

Hope Chapter, No. 13, O. E. S., held its annual election Wednesday night. The following were elected as officers for the ensuing year: Worthy Matron.....Myrtle Broughton  
Worthy Patron.....Arthur Williams  
Associate Matron.....Sadie Given  
Secretary.....Mary Warnick  
Treasurer.....Ella Russell  
Conductress.....Florence Bacon  
Associate Conductress.....Cassie Biever  
Trustees—May Noyes, Irene Williams, John Broughton.  
The full list of officers, elective and appointive, will be announced soon.

A joint installation of the Blue Lodge and Eastern Star will be held Wednesday, Dec. 27.

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Bragg today announced that the wedding of their daughter, Miss Margaret Zoe Bragg and Mr. S. C. Spinning of Los Angeles, would take place in Riverside, Calif., December 20. Miss Bragg has been teaching school in Redlands for two years. Mr. Spinning is a civil engineer, connected with the state highway department of California and has had his headquarters in Los Angeles. After their marriage the young couple will spend their honeymoon at the Mission Inn, Riverside,

and then go to the Imperial Valley, where Mr. Spinning has been ordered in connection with his profession. He expects to be located at Calexico or El Centro. Miss Bragg's engagement and wedding day was announced at a party given at Redlands by Miss Leah Scott and since then she has been much feted with showers and parties.

Last Tuesday evening Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Biggers entertained several couples at a delightful dancing party in their home on First street. Light refreshments were served later in the evening.

Mrs. Vincent Palmer entertained the Kaffee Klatch yesterday afternoon. The rooms were tastefully decorated with large bouquets of chrysanthemums. A two-course luncheon was served. There will be no session of the club next week.

Mrs. Lucy Stanchfield delightfully entertained the members of the P. E. O. yesterday afternoon. "Isben's Master Builder" was read.

Mrs. C. D. Putman entertained the Lucky Thirteen club at her home Thursday afternoon. Bridge was the feature of the day. Mrs. Wm. Bollons winning high score. A delicious two-course luncheon was served, the table made beautiful by a center of red carnations.

Miss Lela Pace, of Enterprise, returned to her home this morning, after spending a few days with Miss Gladys Miller.

The Elks are planning an informal dancing party for next Monday evening in their new building.

Mrs. H. M. Bay entertained the Billiken club at her home, Thursday afternoon.

(Additional Society Page 12.)

## PERSONAL MENTION

Miss Austin came over from Cove today.

Contractor Hansen, after a protracted illness, is able to be out again.

George Blake left this morning for Baker, after spending a few days with his daughter, Mrs. P. J. Green.

Mrs. A. H. Prince left this morning for Denver, where she was called by the illness of her mother.

Miss Edna Snider came in today from Hilgard, where she is teaching.

Mrs. L. A. Recken arrived from Portland this morning to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mac Wood.

Miss Blackmon was called to Baker yesterday by the illness of her brother-in-law, Mr. Potter, of that city.

Miss Mabel Herzinger has charge of the store during her absence.

## WOMEN'S BUILDING IS SOUGHT

Neighborhood Club Deliberates Upon Plan to Boost State-Wide Movement

Copies of the resolutions drafted by the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs at Seaside last fall, pertaining to a woman's building at the state fair, have been forwarded to the Neighborhood club and the legislative committee now has them under consideration. The women of Oregon are asking the men of Oregon to join them in the movement to have a woman's building erected in 1917 on the State Fair grounds for their use and as a memorial to mothers, the pioneer women of Oregon. The State Fair board has responded with unanimity to the quest and has included in its budget the item of \$40,000 to be used for that purpose. The resolutions set out: It is impossible to obtain works of art or other valuable exhibits at the state fair on account of the risk incurred under present conditions; the interest shown in the fair by women voters demands a suitable recognition; that such a building is urgent and should be in readiness for the next fair; that the state board be and is requested to furnish estimated costs; that this is not a partisan movement.

## FRENCH TAKE GERMAN LINE

POSITIONS NORTHEAST OF VERDUN FALL INTO FRENCH HANDS BERLIN ADMITS

GREEK REPLY COMPLETE SURRENDER TO ALLIES

Giving in At Every Angle, Greeks Humbly Ask That Allies Withdraw Blockade—German Lines Penetrate British At Zillebeke—Ninth Army's Left in Roumania Advances.

Berlin, (Via Sayville), December 16.—(United Press)

—It is admitted French captured advanced positions northeast of Verdun and Germans retreated to the second line at Talouridge on the heights north of Louvremont and Chambrettes south of Bezonvaux.

Germans penetrated the second British lines southeast of Zillebeke and the ninth army's left in Roumania has reached the Buzauh-Rimiseul road after heavy fighting.

Greeks Humble Before Allies. Athens, Dec. 16.—(United Press)—The Greek government has revealed the text of its reply to the allies' demands. It completely complies with the ultimatum terms and asks resumption of "traditional relations with the entente, based on reciprocal confidence." It says Greece desires to give manifest proof of sincere friendship to the entente, and promised legitimate satisfaction for Greek attacks on the allies December 1. It suggested arbitration for adjustment of details and hopes the entente powers will reconsider the blockade decision.

Paris, Dec. 16.—(United Press)—Four French divisions defeated five German divisions in yesterday's battle north of Verdun. Germans did not counter. The statement detailed that artillerying is in progress along the entire front from the Meuse to Woivre. Happenings on the Macedonian front have been uneventful.

Petrograd, Dec. 16.—(United Press)—Russian warships have successfully shelled Balchek. The fleet was damaged, despite the enemy shore battery and sea-plane and submarine attacks. The Bulgarian flour mills were destroyed.

## STOCK BREEDERS DISREGARDING COSTS TO BUILD UP THEIR HERDS

Expert stock breeders have long since determined that profitable herds must be headed by the best that money can buy. Union county having expert stock breeders who are not afraid or disinclined to spend their money, are doing that very thing. The recent stock show at Portland conclusively proves it. Paul Spillman, county agriculturist, followed these sales with keen interest, for he foresees Union county the banner heavy beef and draft horse producer in the northwest. Concerning these matters, Mr. Spillman said this morning:

Best Blood Obtainable Bought In connection with the Pacific International Livestock show there were held a series of cattle auctions of the various breeds. These sales are annual events in connection with the show. Breeders consign their animals and they are sold to the highest bidder. That Union county breeders have endeavored to get the best of blood in the past we have always maintained but this year the breeders went themselves one better and I believe that more high-priced pure bred cattle of the various breeds have been purchased during the recent sales by Union county breeders than ever before in the same length of time.

## Lost Boy Suffers Anguish And Fright

Little Tot Dodges Would-be Benefactors, Screaming in His Alarm—Finally Soothed and Consolated.

Running two blocks, most or the time in the center of a busy street, dodging automobiles and those who would befriend him, a little 4-year-old boy, out to greet Santa Claus this morning, created something of a sensation. The little one became frightened when he lost his friends, and in his confusion commenced to run and scream in hysterical fright. For several minutes he successfully eluded all who would befriend him, and twisting in and out among automobiles, he finally dashed into Elm street, where he was cornered and under the soothing hands of women who were nearby, he regained his composure but couldn't give his name. Fire Chief Mackey took him in tow and in a few minutes he was comfortably located in the lobby of the Y. M. C. A., while strings were pulled to find his identity.

Within an hour the frantic mother was located and her son restored to her. The little fellow strayed away while the mother was shopping. The mother's name was not learned.

## ZEM ZEM WATERS BUBBLING

Class of Tyros Will Journey Long and Precarious Trip Next Tuesday

Kahled temple, Dramatic Order of Knights of Khorassan, will sit in solemn session next Tuesday night. A big class will be ready for the precarious journey to the land of zem zem waters, the wells of which are reported bubbling over even this early. Everything to edify the lodgemen will be provided, and the spirit of fun will fly high. Royal Vezier Humphreys will punish with sunrise execution any D. O. K. K. who is not present when the tyros begin their pilgrimage.

## Births Far Exceed County Death Rate

Nearly Three Hundred Births to December 1, in Contrast to the Total Deaths Amounting to 112.

The population of Union county surely does not seem to be falling off, for reports from the state board of health show that the total number of deaths is nearly 40 per cent less than the number of births. The figures express the numbers up to and not including December 1.

Each county is divided into a number of districts over which is a registrar. The doctor in charge of each case reports to the registrar of his district, who in turn hands in his report to the state board of health.

David N. Roberg, secretary of the board, gives the following information to The Observer: Deaths 112, births 282.

## NEUTRALITY SCANDAL IS NEAR CRISIS

BOTH AMERICANS AND MEXICANS WILL BE ARRESTED BY GOVERNMENT

VILLA'S AMMUNITION SUPPLY SOURCE LOCATED

Arrests Pending Signing of Protocol—Government Secret Service Men Have Long Been on the Trail of Those Accused—Villa Ready to Make Another Raid Is Belief.

El Paso, Dec. 16.—(United Press)—The United Press secret service men plan wholesale arrests of Americans and Mexicans at El Paso and other border points. The Mexican Junta is under surveillance.

Action was delayed pending ratification of the American-Mexican protocol. The agents have been hunting the source of Villistas' ammunition supply and positively learned Villa obtained 28,000 cartridges the night before capturing Chihuahua.

Reports indicated that Villa is preparing another campaign as his two bands are consolidated. Damaged field guns and machine guns, captured at Santa Rosa hill, are being repaired at Mexican Northwestern Railway machine shops. A large body of Villistas cut the Chihuahua-Santa Rosalia communications. The Mexican consulate officials have not learned whether Villa has started new attacks or not.

## KNIGHTS TEMPLAR INSTALL

C. M. Humphreys Re-Elected Eminent Commander of Lodge Here

During the current week officers of the Commandery, Knights Templar, previously elected for the ensuing year, were installed. C. M. Humphreys was re-elected eminent commander. The complete list follows:

C. M. Humphreys, E. C.; L. M. Hoyt, generalissimo; Howard Davis, captain general; L. H. Russell, recorder; George T. Cochran, prelate; L. L. Snodgrass, senior warden; Turner Oliver, junior warden; C. C. Penington, warden, and C. T. Bacon, treasurer.

## MERCANTILE FIRM'S PERSONNEL NEW

F. J. Holmes Becomes Part Owner of Firm Previously Known as Sawyer-Clark—Usual Lines to Be Handled.

Announcement was made today that Fred J. Holmes, prominent business man and president of the La Grande National bank had acquired an interest in the Sawyer-Clark Company and that the business would be incorporated under the name of the Sawyer-Holmes Mercantile company. The new company will conduct the business along the same lines as the old partnership and deal in feed, coal, wood, lime, cement, poultry supplies, certain lines of building materials, and may later expand by adding a complete line of building materials. It will also buy and sell potatoes, grain and produce of all kinds. It will buy this produce outright and not on commission. The farmers and growers will be paid for their products at an agreed price and run no risk.

The present business took over the stock and assets of the Grande Ronde Cash company, and under the management of Mr. Sawyer and Mr. Clark grew and developed. With the addition of Mr. Holmes and new capital, it is safe to predict that the new incorporation will continue to be one of the solid business institutions of La Grande.

(Continued on Page Six.)